

WHITE COUNTY BOARD MEETING
November 9, 2004

Chairman Wooten reconvened the September 14, 2004 Board meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtroom of the White County Courthouse in the City of Carmi.

Clerk Dozier called the roll with Nelson, Ray, Mitchell, Trout and Wooten all present.

Chairman Wooten stated that the September Board meeting had been recessed until this date so that the Board could adopt the appropriation ordinance and tax levy for White County, Egyptian Health Department, Coleman Tri-County and the Extension Council Service. Mr. Wooten stated that the current 2005 budget is not balanced and the County has not received a quote for its liability and workman's compensation insurance for 2005. Chairman Wooten stated that both adoptions of the appropriation ordinance and the tax levy should be tabled and this meeting recessed until Tuesday, November 30, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to recess the September 14th board meeting until Tuesday, November 30, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. Motion seconded by Ray. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten called the November 9th Board meeting to order.

Clerk Dozier called the roll with Nelson, Ray, Mitchell, Trout and Wooten all present.

Chairman Wooten asked the Board if they received copies of the minutes of the previous meeting and were there any additions, changes or deletions. Mr. Trout by a motion that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be waived and that the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as proposed in writing. Motion seconded by Mitchell. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that he would entertain a motion to pay all current bills. Mr. Ray made a motion to pay all current bills, seconded by Trout. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Clerk Dozier explained that the optical scan equipment on election day had performed properly, however she had some difficulty with ballots that were an eighth of an inch to wide to go through the tabulator and that the rain had created problems with the ballots drawing moisture. Clerk Dozier explained that when the rain stopped the problems with the ballots feeding in the tabulator subsided.

Mr. Jack Bosaw, County Engineer stated that the Crooked Creek Bridge project is scheduled to begin this week. The rain has slowed the project down. Mr. Bosaw stated that the engineers were doing some design work on the Epworth road to see if the settling problem could be corrected.

Chairman Wooten stated that the ambulance service had submitted their report in writing. He stated that the ambulance service was still running a deficit balance. Chairman Wooten explained that there has been \$150,000.00 of ambulance runs billed that have never been paid by Medicare or Medicaid. In the month of October \$49,000.00 was billed and only \$8,000.00 of income has been received. Chairman Wooten stated that Edwards County had just passed a tax referendum for the ambulance service and White County may have to look at doing the same thing.

Chairman Wooten stated that the Treasurer is collecting the second installment of the real estate taxes, which are due on November 15th.

Mr. Doug Maier, White County Sheriff, stated that the jail population was 71 and they are currently housing 39 White County prisoners and 26 federal prisoners. He stated that the City of Carmi's jail reimbursement for the month of October would be \$18,633.18. Sheriff Maier stated that he had turned over to the Treasurer \$50,038.00 in prisoner keep, \$752.00 in work release and \$1,551.74 in inmate telephone commission. Sheriff Maier stated that Jefferson County is having a few financial problems and that they owe White County for prisoner keep for the months of July, August, and September in the amount of \$52,704.00. Sheriff Maier stated that he would call them to see if they could start paying on a portion of those bills.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next 9-1-1 meeting would be held next Monday evening, November 15, 2004 in the Courtroom.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda was the reappointment of Robin Mick to the Egyptian Health Department Board. Mr. Trout made a motion to reappoint Robin Mick, seconded by Nelson. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item was to ratify a contract between White County and the Fraternal Order of Police. Mr. Mike Ray stated that the negotiations only lasted about two hours and everything was settled in record time. He stated that a 3% pay increase was given for each of the next three years and a 1% per cent increase in certain longevity steps was awarded. Mr. Ray made a motion to approve the new contract with the FOP, seconded by Nelson. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten stated that the next item on the agenda was to consider the letters of understanding from Botsch and Associates for the County's 2004 audit. The Circuit Clerk's audit will cost \$3,000.00 and the County's audit will cost \$17,000.00. Mr. Nelson asked if that was a large increase and Mr. Wooten stated that it was, but he had asked another account for a quote and received no response. Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to approve the letters of understanding with Botsch and Associates in the amount of \$20,000.00, seconded by Trout. Motion carried 5-0 on roll call vote.

Chairman Wooten reminded the Board of the recessed November 30 meeting and the December meeting would be held on December 14, 2004 in the Courtroom at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Mitchell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trout. Motion passed 5-0 on roll call vote.